

# If the Fields Could Talk...

175 Years  
of Building  
St. Ann's  
Faith  
Community  
(1843-2018)



The very beginnings of the Catholic faith in our area  
originate deep into the past



Father Marquette  
and Joliet came  
down the  
Mississippi River in  
1673



## French fur traders and missionaries came down from the French colony that is now Canada



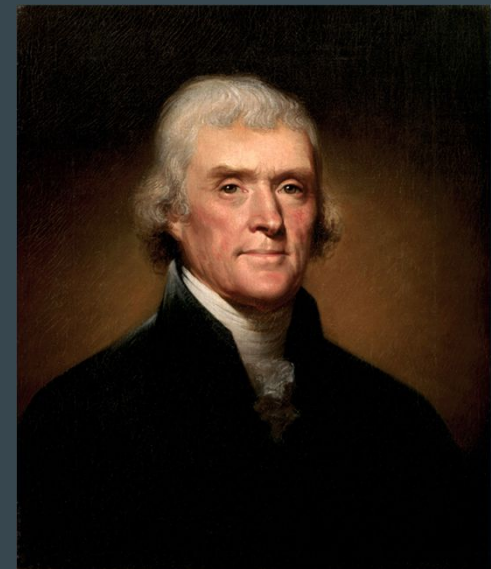
The fur traders gave the Indians such things as tools, wool, cotton, jewelry, weapons and alcohol in exchange for furs

The missionaries were sent to evangelize the Indians and minister to any French in the region





In 1803, the United States purchased the area in red from France - The Louisiana Purchase



Thomas Jefferson

**Before this land could be opened to settlers, treaties needed to be made with the Indian tribes**

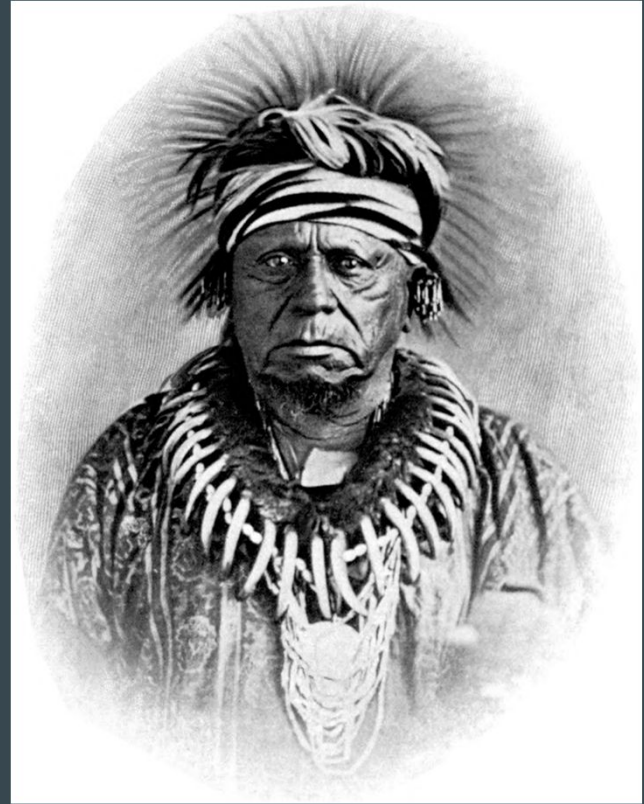
**In many cases, the Indians were not treated fairly and honestly by the United States government, as treaties to move off their land were negotiated**





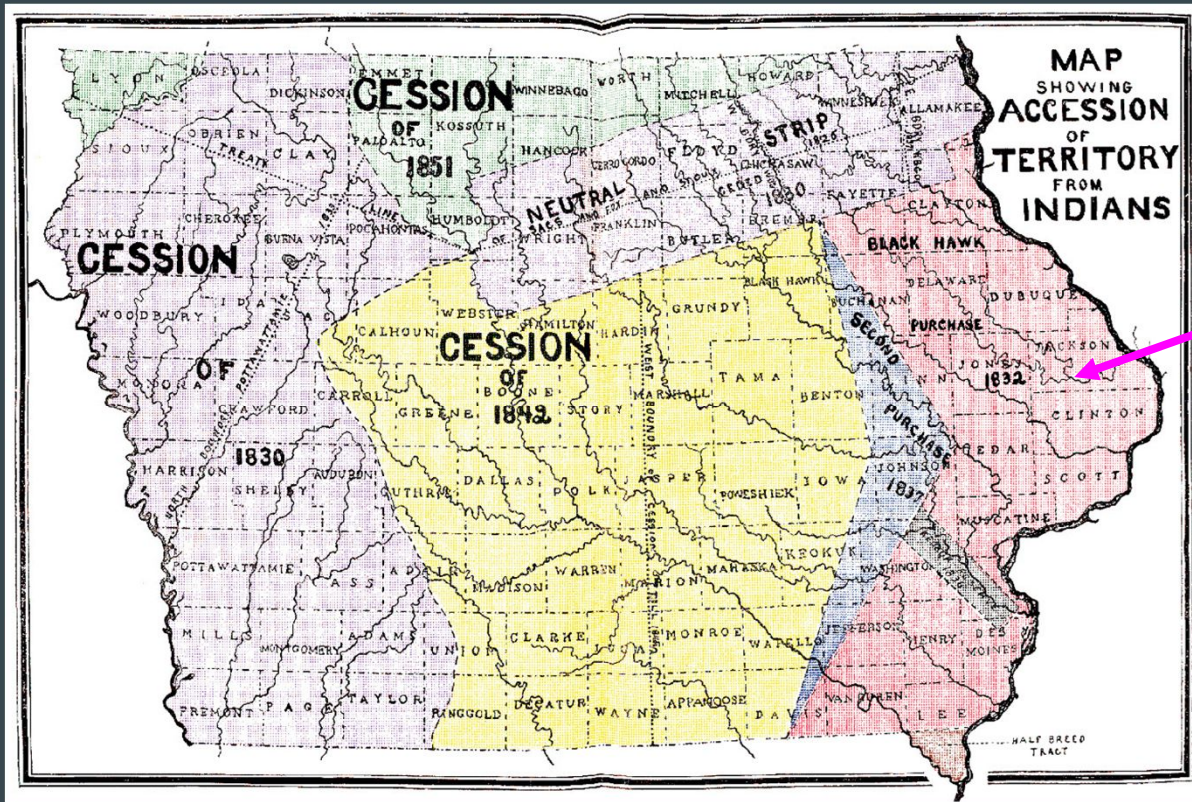
Chief Black Hawk

The Sauk,  
Fox, and  
Winnebago  
called this  
area home



Chief Keokuk

# Blackhawk Purchase 1832



After defeating Chief Black Hawk in the Black Hawk War, the U.S. government paid the Sauk and Fox \$640,000 for 6 million acres - about 11 cents per acre



Having heard of the new “Blackhawk Purchase” the Brownlie Brothers, Alexander and James, came to this area in 1838 looking for land to buy

“...after a long, tedious walk through sloughs, sand and long grass (there were no horses for rent) we reached the area of Long Grove.

Reaching it we found a Charles Elder, his wife and one child, and Leonard Cooper and family of ten, and Frederick Arbel living in log cabins in the area.”

*The History of Long Grove, Iowa (James Brownlie History Story)*

**Charles Elder** and **Leonard Cooper**  
were the first Catholic families in  
the Long Grove area

Mass was offered in their  
homes by priests that came on  
horseback, as early as 1838





# Father Samuel Mazzuchelli

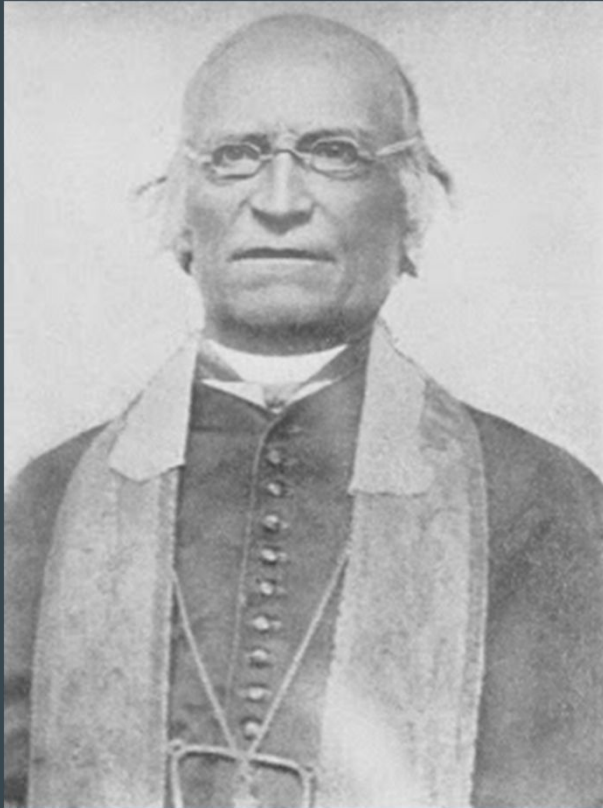
Traveled on horseback to serve Indians, immigrant settlers, miners, farmers, Catholics and Protestants in a large area including Iowa



## The area that is now Iowa was part of different dioceses through these early years

1674 - 1762	Diocese of Quebec
1762 - 1787	Diocese of Santiago De Cuba
1787 - 1793	Diocese of Havana, Louisiana and the Floridas
1793 - 1800	Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas
1805 - 1815	Diocese of Baltimore
1815 - 1826	Diocese of the Louisiana Territory
1826 - 1837	Rival claims of Diocese of Detroit and St. Louis
1837 - 1881	Diocese of Dubuque
1881 -present	Diocese of Davenport





## Diocese of Dubuque Established - 1837

Mathias Loras was appointed bishop of the diocese that included all of what now is Iowa, Minnesota and parts of North and South Dakota

The Diocese of Davenport was not created until 1881

Father Mazzuchelli oversaw  
the building of St. Anthony's  
Church in Davenport in 1838

Land was donated by  
Antoine and Marguerite  
LeClaire



Antoine LeClaire



Marguerite LeClaire

In the late 1830's about 100 people lived in  
Davenport and about 25 of them were Catholic

# Father Jean Antoine-Marie Pelamourgues



Bishop Loras assigned him to St. Anthony's in Davenport from 1839 to 1868

He helped serve the very early members of St. Ann's. He is likely the first priest to say mass in our newly formed parish



# **THE DATES OF THE FORMATION OF THE PRESENT PARISHES AND THE DATES OF THE ERECTION OF THE PRESENT CHURCHES**

BISHOPS PARISHES	DIOCESE OF DUBUQUE					DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT			
	Loras 1837-1858	Smyth 1858-1865	Hennessey 1866-1881	McMullen 1881-1883	Cosgrove 1884-1906	Davis 1906-1926	Rohlman 1927-1944	Hayes 1945-1966	O'Keefe 1967-
Davenport: St. Anthony	1937/1853				1892				
St. Paul: St. James	1838				1891				
Burlington: St. Paul	1839				1886				
Fort Madison: St. Joseph	1840								
Iowa City: St. Mary	1840		1869		1893				
Cosgrove: St. Peter	1840				1886				
Keokuk: St. John - St. Peter	1840								
Long Grove: St. Ann	1840		1870						
Muscatine: St. Mathias	1841					1911			
West Point: St. Mary	1841	1863							
Holbrook: St. Michael	1843		1867						
Solon: St. Mary	1846		1877						
Augusta: St. Mary	1846				1904				
Clinton (Lyons): St. Irenaeus	1848		1871						
Eddyville: St. Mary	1848		1880						
Ottumwa: St. Mary	1849						1931		
DeWitt: SS. Simon & Jude - St. Joseph	1850		1880						
Dodgeville: St. Mary	1850				1904				
Georgetown (Staceyville): St. Gregory - St. Patrick	1851		1867						
Burlington: St. John the Baptist	1852				1885				
Villa Nova: St. Patrick	1852						1942		
Bauer: St. Joseph	1853		1876					1957	
Columbus Junction: St. Joseph	1853								
Petersville: Immaculate Conception	1853				1904				
Ardon: St. Malachy	1854				1902				
Davenport: St. Kunegunda - St. Joseph	1854			1883					

*From Seasons of Growth: History of the  
Diocese of Davenport 1881-1981*

From *Baptisms at St. Anthony's Parish September 1, 1839 - December 27, 1862*

16 On the 22<sup>d</sup> day of August 1841 was baptized Francis  
Francis Cooper, born May 20<sup>th</sup> 1841 son of Leonard Cooper  
Cooper of Long Grove and of M<sup>rs</sup> Cooper. God father  
Adam Noel God mother Sarah Lindsey.

17 On the 22<sup>d</sup> day of August 1841 was baptized  
Mary Mary Elder, born on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 1841  
Elder daughter of M<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>rs</sup> Elder of Long Grove  
God father Antoine Leclaire. God mother Mary Truck.

18 On the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1841 was baptized  
Adolphus Adolphus Glen aged 8 years son of Christina  
Glen. God mother Mary Truck.

J. A. M. Pelamourgues



# The Official Beginnings of St. Ann's Parish - 1843

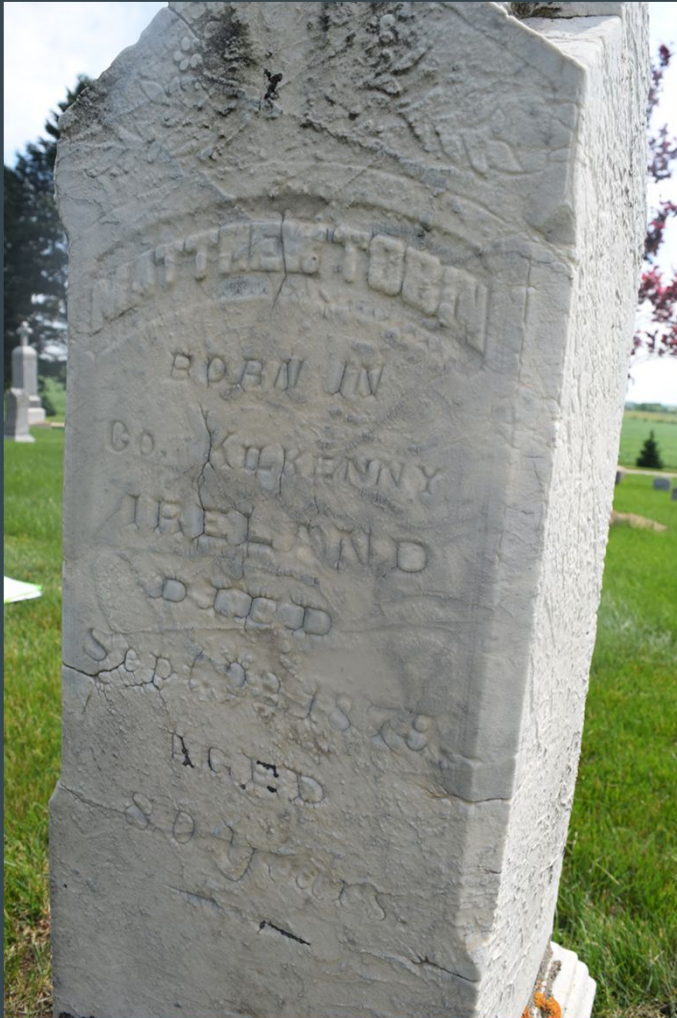
In 1838 there were Catholic families living here but by 1843 masses were taking place in settlers homes on a regular basis

That's 175 years ago!



Tobin Cabin located at Pioneer Village - originally built in 1837 by Frederick Arbel and moved to Pioneer Village from the Tom Tobin farm in 1970





## Charter Families of St. Ann's



- John McManus
- Richard Tobin
- Matthew Tobin
- John Noel
- Michael Lillis
- James Armstrong
- Raphael Cooper
- Dominick Gillin
- John Ennis
- John Doyle
- Martin Kehoe
- Leonard Cooper
- Patrick Dempsey
- Charles Elder

## First St. Ann's Church built in 1853

- Land was donated by John McManus
- Patrick Dempsey later donated 20 additional acres of farmland
- Built using wood from local oak trees
- Seated about 50 people
- The original frame building sat where the bell tower is now located

Priests were scarce in this missionary diocese so from **1853 to 1870** Davenport area churches provided priests for St. Ann's

## Visiting Priests besides Father Pelamourgues

- Father James McGillin
- Father Peter Gaffney
- Father Henry Cosgrove, who later became Bishop of the Diocese of Davenport from 1884 to 1906

**According to St. Ann's early marriage and baptism records, these priests also assisted:**

- Father Dennis Wheeler 1859 - 1860
- Father John Foley 1865 - 1870



## First railroad bridge across the Mississippi River opened in 1856



“Rock Island was now only 42 hours from New York. The year before, a trip to Chicago alone took two weeks by wagon.”

Henry Farnam



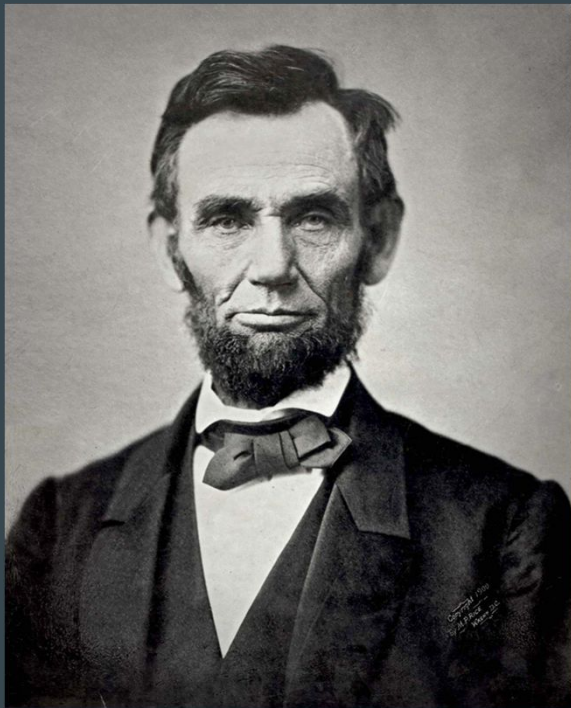
**Wedding picture of charter  
members  
John T. Noel and Mary Maguire**

Married on November 12, 1860 at  
St. Ann's Church

Ceremony performed by Father  
Cosgrove

From Richardson-Sloane Special Collections  
Center, Davenport Public Library

Abraham Lincoln was  
president from 1861-  
1865



“By the end of the war in 1865,  
76,534 Iowa men had served  
in the Union army. In relation  
to its population, Iowa sent  
more soldiers to the Civil War  
than any other state. Of those  
13,169 died.”

<http://www.iptv.org/iowapathways/mypath/iowa-civil-war>





## Three Civil War soldiers are buried at St. Ann's, including John Cooper

Words on stone say:

Co C, 20 Ia Vol. Inf

of 1862 to 1865

Born in Cambria Co Penn

Mar. 26, 1837



## Graves of Raphael and Celina M. Cooper's three children

Matilda died in  
1862 - 1 year

William died in  
1872 - 3 months

Aline died in  
1876 - 11 years

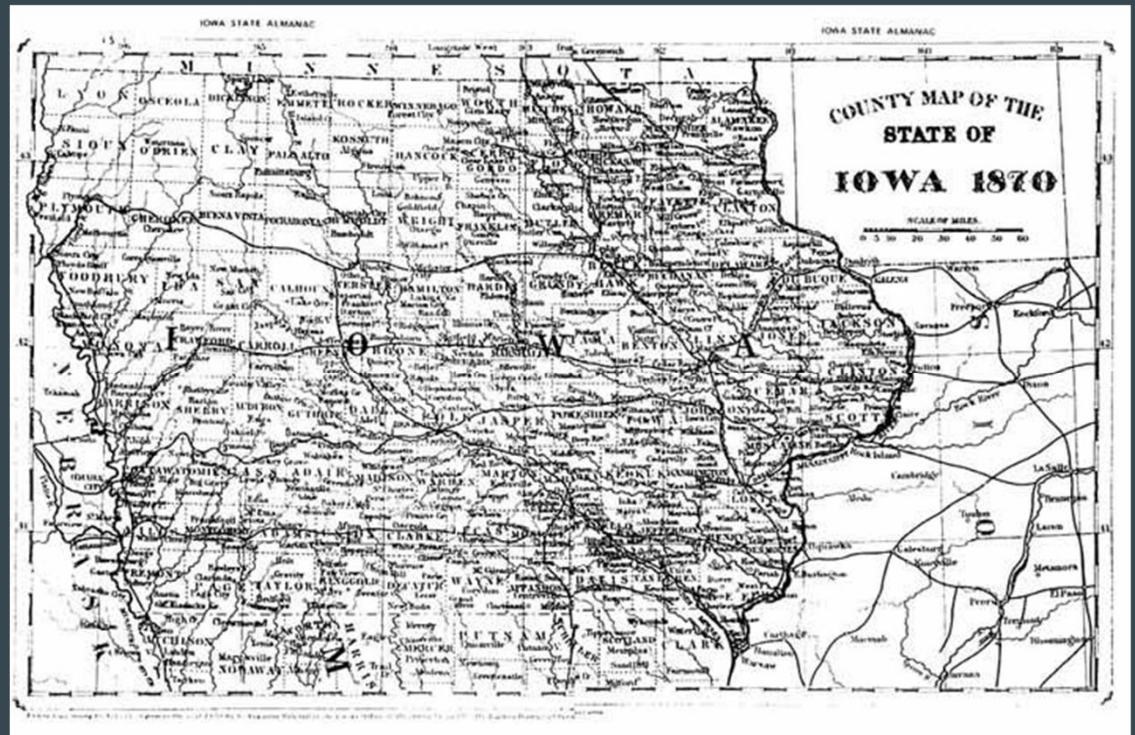




# By 1870 St. Ann's Needed a Bigger Church

“Many Irish, Germans, and Belgians, seeing the advertisements of the church and experiencing the anti-Catholic mood of the cities, decided Iowa would make a wonderful new home.”

From *The History of St. Ann's Catholic Church, Long Grove, Iowa*



## The New Church Was Built

- The new church was added to the front of the original church
- The old church became the vestry
- A parsonage, or home for a resident priest was built
- Many maple trees were planted around the new church
- It seated about 250 people





Scanned from a newspaper article from a Pioneer Village poster display



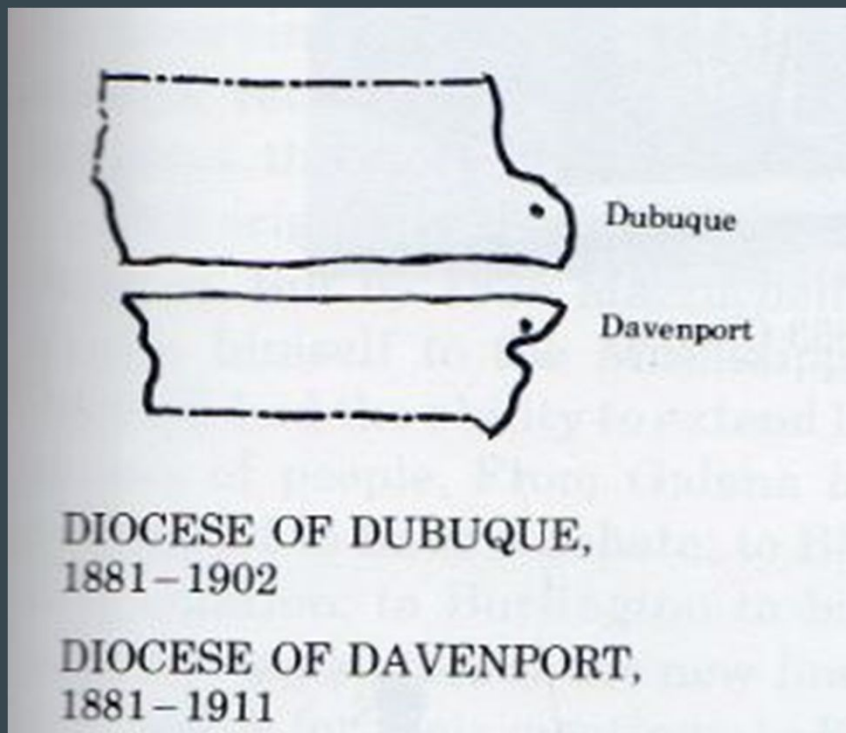
## Family of John T. and Mary Noel - around 1877



Joseph  
Noel

From Richardson-  
Sloane Special  
Collections Center,  
Davenport Public  
Library

# New Diocese of Davenport 1881



From *Seasons of Growth: History of the Diocese of Davenport 1881-1981*



Bishop John  
McMullen  
1881-1883



Bishop  
Henry  
Cosgrove  
1884-1906





Picture from  
church files













## First Resident Priest at St. Ann's

- Father Thomas Smyth (1870 - 1894) Born in County Clare, Ireland in 1838. He helped unite the Irish, German, and Belgians during a time of ethnic tension.

In 1882, Bishop McMullen, the first bishop of the newly formed Davenport Diocese, confirmed a class of 135 students at St. Ann's.



## Resident Priests at St. Ann's

- Father Patrick Morrin (1894 - 1897)  
**Born in County Clare, Ireland** in 1843.  
There were about 50 families at St. Ann's when he came.
- Father Martin McNamara (1898 - 1902)  
Little is known.

Father Martin McNamara



Picture from Rita Claeys family

## Resident Priests at St. Ann's

- Father Joseph Rangger (1903 - 1904)  
**Born in Tyrok, Austria** in 1867.
- Father Harvey Finefield (1906 - 1912) **Born in Davenport** in 1877.  
First American born priest at St. Ann's. His parents lived in the parsonage and farmed the church land. He said mass in Catholic homes in McCausland about every six weeks.

Father Joseph Rangger



Picture from Diocese of Davenport Archives

## Resident Priests at St. Ann's

- Father John Lynch (1913 - 1929) Born in Clare County, Ireland in 1877. The Ku Klux Klan was active in northern Scott County during this time.



Picture from Diocese of Davenport Archives (Obituary)



## Resident Priests at St. Ann's

- Father Francis Lawler (1929 - 1935) Born in Clinton, Iowa in 1882. He began cleaning up and repairing the cemetery.
- Father Dennis Ryan (1935 - 1942) Born in County Tipperary, Ireland. Continued work on the cemetery. Died of a heart attack on May 9, 1942, while serving as pastor.

## Father Raphael Maher (1942-1973) 31 years!



Picture from Rita Claeys family

- Born in **Mingo, Iowa**
- He taught literature at St. Ambrose for 11 years before coming to St. Ann's
- He restored "the crumbling church back to its former glory"
- Eliminated church pew rent and started the envelope system so members of the parish could give what they could afford

## Father Maher continued

- Started a savings fund
- In early 1950's, August DeCook built the brick house by the cemetery and willed it to the church.
- Updated the church in the 1970's in line with changes of Vatican II
- Built the Parish Center in 1971 for religious education classes that had grown to about 550 students
- Raised peacocks while at St. Ann's
- Had four different dogs, all Great Danes, and he named them Dante I, II, III, and IV



The Guild erected St. Ann's Shrine  
in 1946 in memory of veterans of  
World War I and II  
(St. Ann's Guild was organized in 1938)

Veterans buried at St. Ann's  
Cemetery:

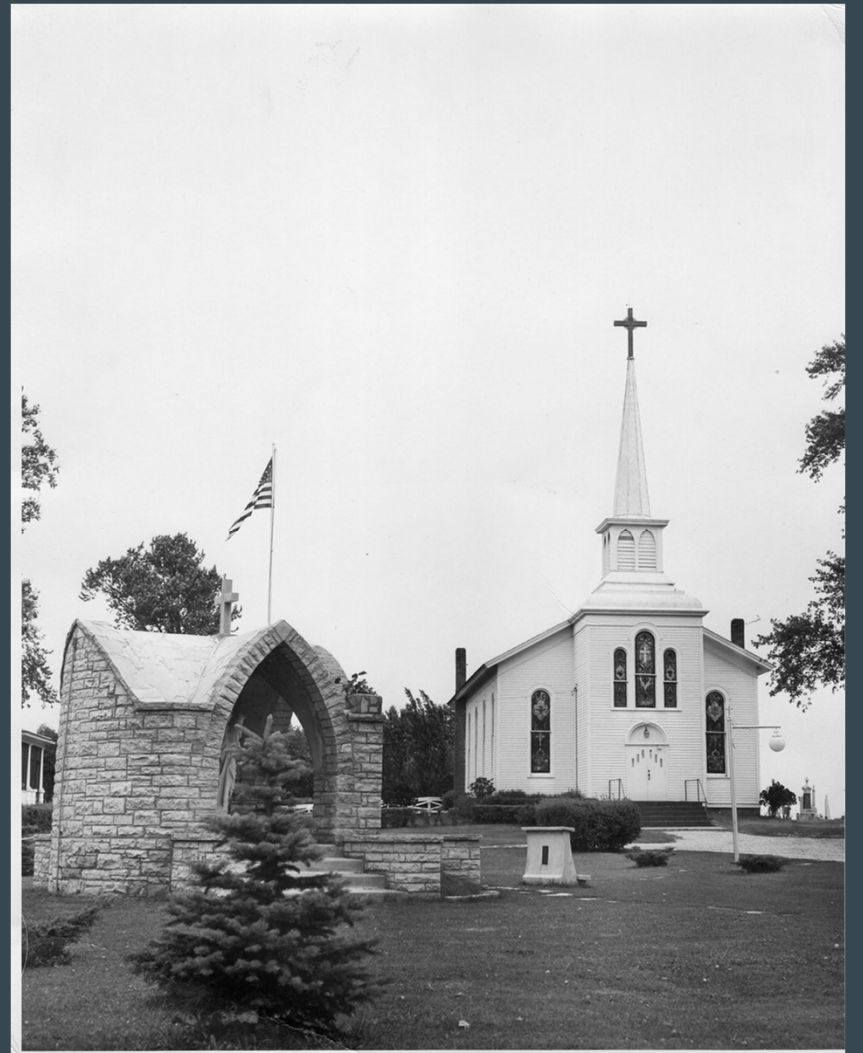
Civil War - 3

World War I - 25

World War II - 47

Korean War - 26

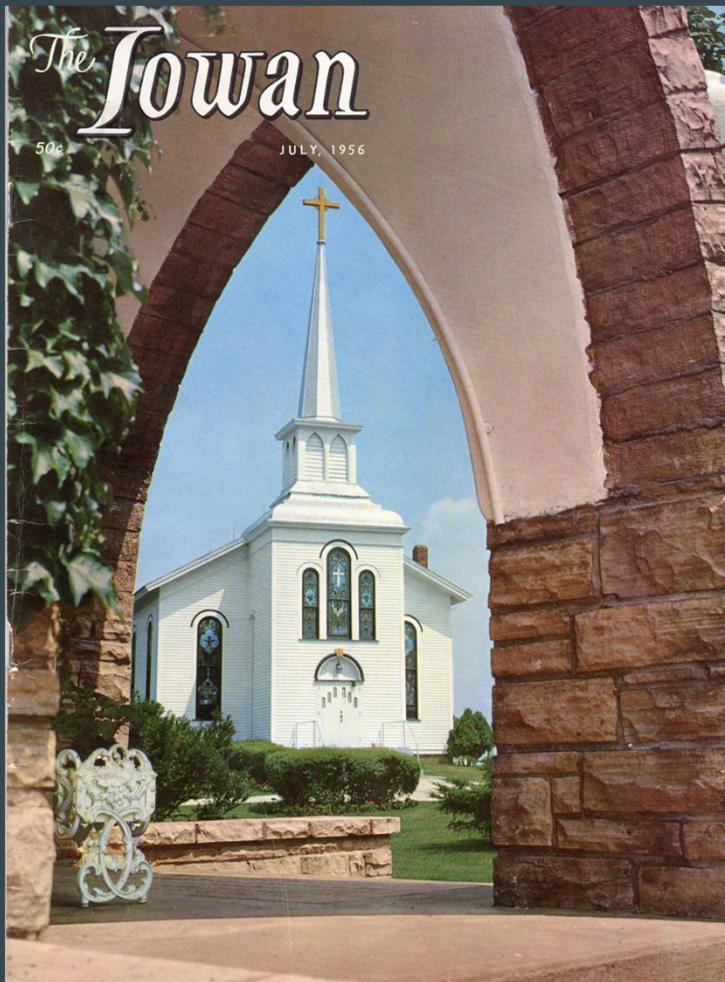
Vietnam War - 9



Stone was cut from Stone City limestone by a stone mason from Leipzig, Germany and assisted by Patrick Murphy







Picture from North Scott Press 1971





Wedding of  
LaVern &  
Elsbeth Noel  
on April 22,  
1950

LaVern was  
the son of  
**Joseph Noel**

Picture from Elsbeth Noel



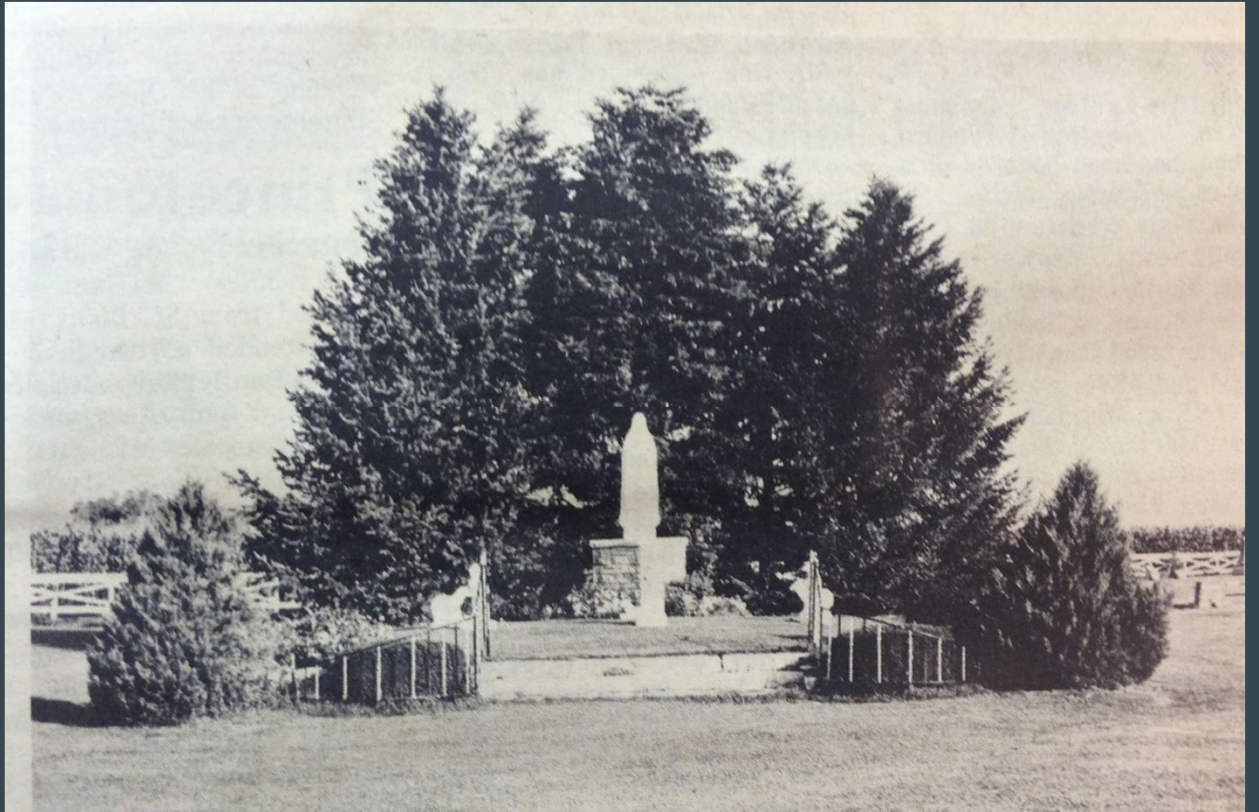
1950 - old doors

Picture from Elsbeth Noel

# Lady of Fatima Shrine

Donated by the  
Brophy Family in  
memory of  
Ambrose Brophy  
in 1957.

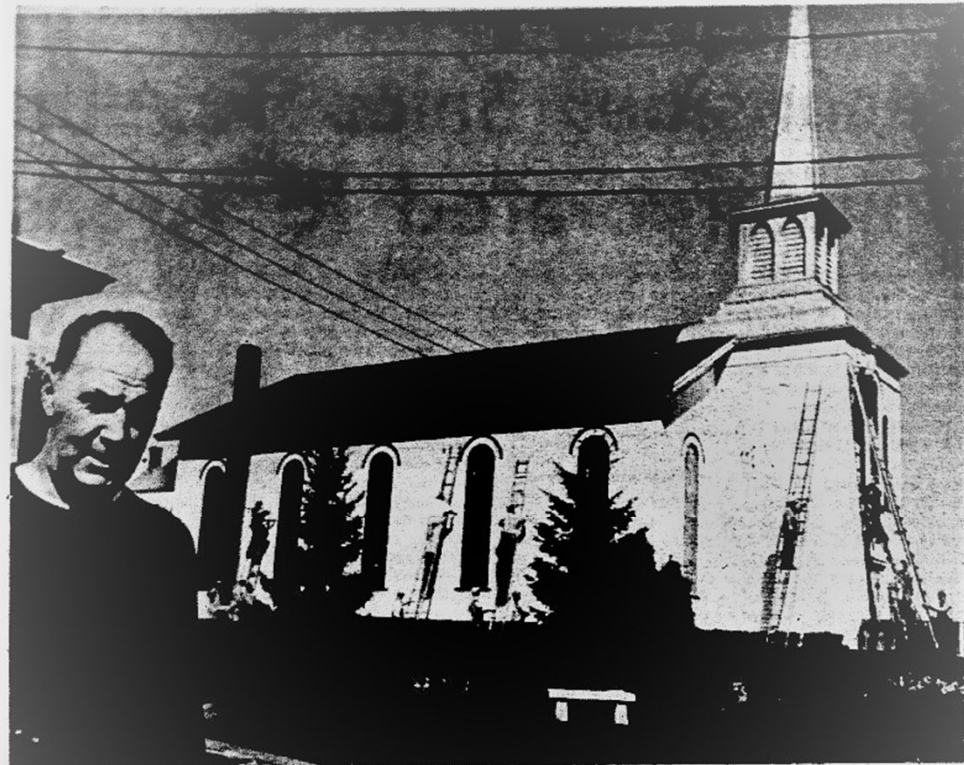
Picture from North Scott Press 1971





# Painting the Church

Article in  
*Morning Democrat*  
September 14, 1960



The Rev. R. M. Maher, pastor of St. Ann's Catholic Church, Long Grove, stands in the foreground while his parishioners swarm over the church with paint and brushes. The 75 workers — who were invited to "a party" — accomplished in a single day what would have normally take at least a week. (Staff photo by Dick Swanson)

MORNING DEMOCRAT

## QUAD-CITY DATELINE

Davenport-Bettendorf, Iowa

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1960 PAGE 3

*nd St. Ann's Church Got A Face-Lifting*

# 'Come, Let Us Paint,' The Pastor Said

By MARY MOHR  
Staff Writer

On Sunday the pastor of St. Ann's Catholic Church, Long Grove, dispensed with his usual sermon.

Smiling from the pulpit, the Rev. R. M. Maher casually invited his parishioners — mostly farm folk — to "come to a party" he was going to give at the church.

It was a painting party", he

said, so wear old clothes and bring along a brush.

Tuesday, 75 parishioners delivered a practical sermon of their own. Showing they have both faith and good works they set to work to paint the church, rectory and garage.

Before 8 a.m. the road leading to the church was lined with cars and trucks. Volunteers set up ladders to paint all church walls and

eaves.

By dusk, the task was finished, except for minor touchup work. Ordinarily the job would have taken longer than a week to complete.

The crew hustled to finish in time to return home to do farm chores and other evening tasks.

One of the hardest workers was Father Maher. He mixed paint, wielded a brush and moved heavy

extension ladders.

Several women, armed with paint buckets and brushes, helped paint the church walls.

Members of the St. Ann's Guild, an organization of parish women, fixed dinner for the workers, in a hastily devised kitchen in the basement of the rectory. Others carried refreshments to the crew during the day.

Father Maher had named five men: Thomas Tobin, Charles

Loussaert, Walter Seamer, and Maurice and Art Claeys, as supervisors for the project. The rest of the workers arrived early Tuesday morning, clad in overalls and ready to work.

Several farmers admitted they had work to do in the fields—mowing hay or baling which they left undone. Another farmer was starting remodeling his barn, a job which he must finish before corn-picking time.

*Morning Democrat Sept. 14, 1960*



Also  
during  
Father  
Maher's  
time ...

The  
Murphy  
Family

1960

Picture from Don Murphy





Inside the  
church  
before the  
updates of  
the early  
1970's

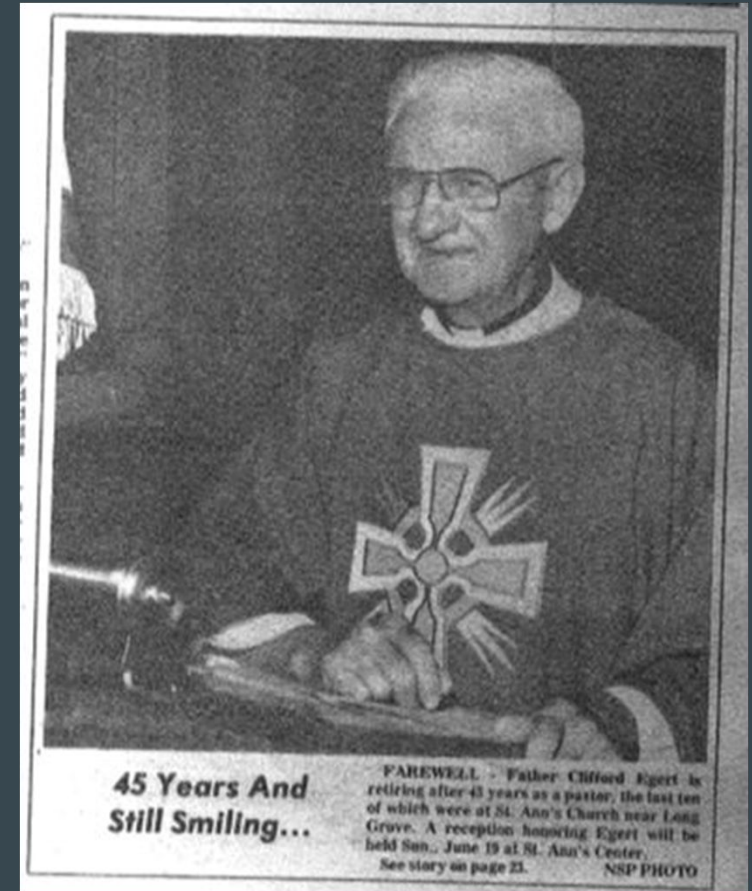


After the  
updates  
in line  
with the  
changes  
for  
Vatican II



## Father Clifford Egert 1973 - 1983

- During WW II served in the army as a chaplain
- Added a sacristy and reconciliation room to the front of the church
- Added two new classrooms, a library and office to the parish center



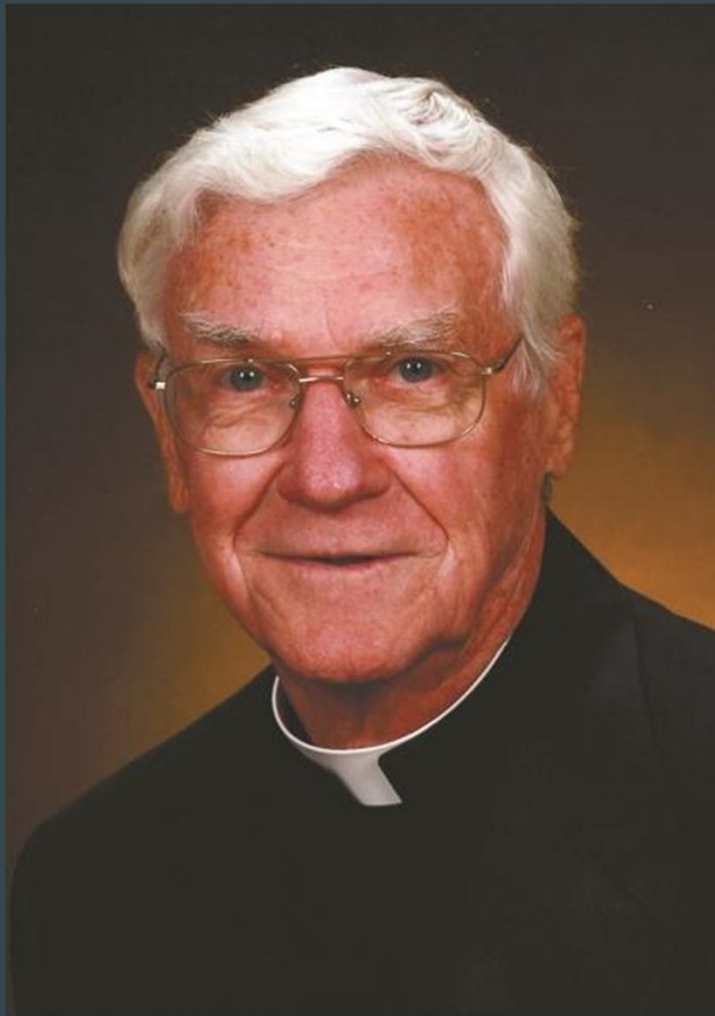
Picture from North Scott Press 1983



## Father Eggert continued

- He was sent here to begin the process of building a new church
- During his time, the church grew from 250 to 500 families





## Father John Hynes 1983 - 1991

- Built a new church, not to just replicate the past, but to embrace full participation in the mass
- Had the courage to take on the controversy and challenges of building a church that is serving us well today

## Father Hynes continued

- Brought in Frank Kacmarcik, a Benedictine Monk, as a liturgical consultant for the new church, because he had experience with building churches informed by the teachings of the Vatican II
- Found a new home for “Old St. Ann’s Church” at Pioneer Village
- Became involved in the first North Scott Clergy Group



# Building Committee for new church



## *Building Committee*

**BUILDING COMMITTEE** - This group of people were responsible for overseeing the building of the new St. Ann's Church. Front, from left, are - Ken Willis, Joe Ragona, Gene Loussaert, Rita Claeys and Mark Uitenbroek. Back - Father John Hynes, Ray Loussaert, Jim Tobin, George Claeys, Jerry Noel and Loras Schafer. Not present for the picture were Lolita Dierickx and Richard Collins.

NSP Photo

## Once Again Building a New Church - 1984

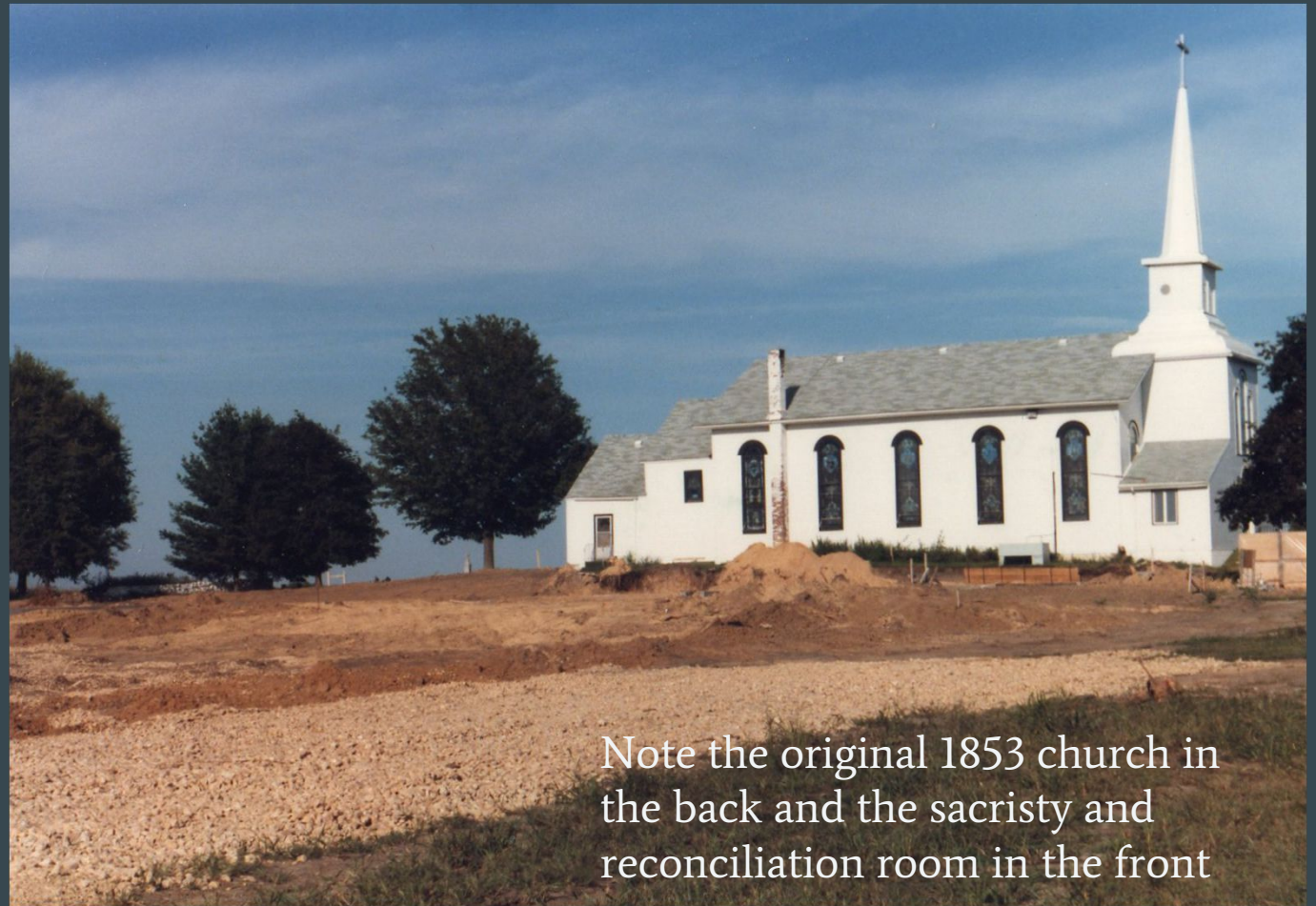
First the rectory  
was moved down  
the road to the  
Costello farm





Then there was  
room to build the  
new church next  
to the old

Ground was  
broken on June  
17, 1984



Note the original 1853 church in  
the back and the sacristy and  
reconciliation room in the front



# Construction begins







The last mass in the old church was  
held on July 29, 1985





# On the move to Pioneer Village September 1985













It's new home  
at Pioneer  
Village



Olde St. Ann's Church at Pioneer Village Today



## New Church Dedicated on October 27, 1985



The Rev. John Hynes stands outside the new church at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Long Grove. The church will be dedicated at 3 p.m. Sunday. (Times photos by Harry Boll)

Picture from  
Quad City  
Times 1985



## Commons Area of New Church

“...Hynes said some members questioned the need for a concourse (Commons Area)... Hynes feels it is necessary to open up a place to a Christian spirit together.

“In a community where so many small towns are represented, I think the concourse will be a place where we can combine that spirit into a unity that will be nurtured and fostered, helping it grow,” he said.”

From article in *Quad City Times* 1984

## More About the New Church

- Seats about 750 people
- Pews are arranged so everyone can see the faces of other people during the mass
- No kneelers because they are considered more fitting for private prayer, while standing fits more with a feeling of community
- Day chapel for daily mass that seats 100
- Baptismal font in Commons area, with view of cemetery through the windows - symbolism that illustrates our journey through life
- No stained glass windows to allow for natural lighting and to bring in the beauty of the outdoors

## Raising the old bell on the new tower

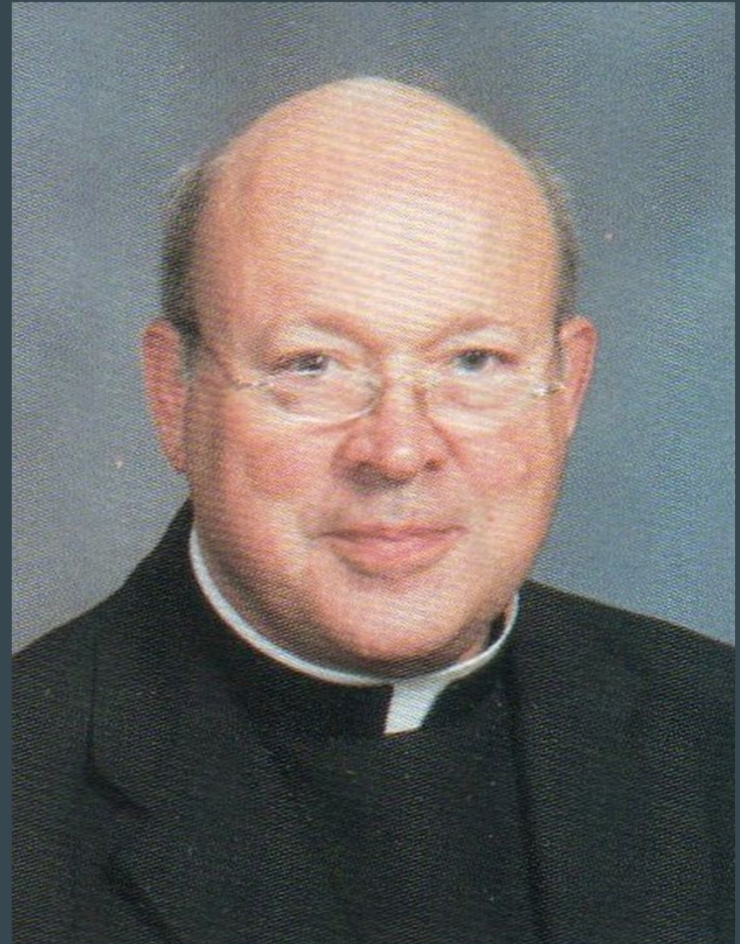






## Father Steve Ebel 1991 - 2007

- Continued the work of Fr. Hynes, realizing the teachings and practice of Vatican II
- Had a strong interest in the liturgy and its execution
- Held many memorable outdoor masses with beautiful music and usually a picnic afterwards

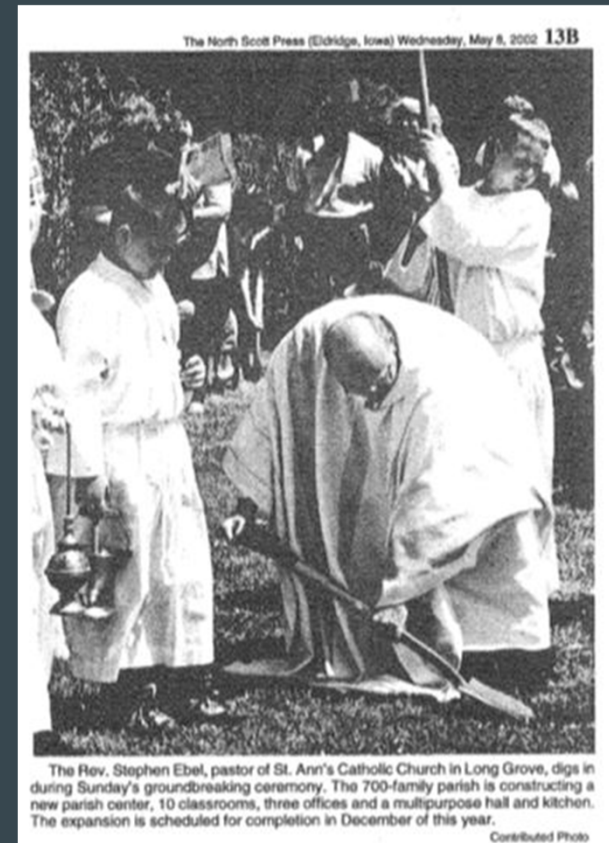


## Father Steve Ebel continued

- Added the Great Hall and 10 Faith Formation classrooms, incorporating the new Parish Center
- Continued active involvement in the North Scott Clergy Group

Picture from North Scott Press  
2002

## Ground is broken May 2002





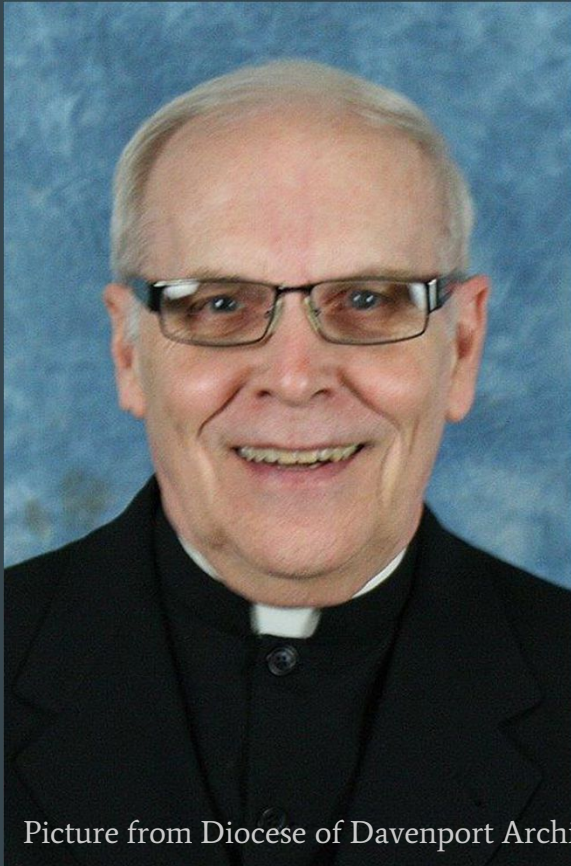
# LaVern & Elsbeth Noel Celebrate 50th Anniversary - 2000



Many  
generations  
from one of  
St. Ann's  
charter  
members

From Elsbeth  
Noel

## Father Thomas Parlette 2007 - 2009



Picture from Diocese of Davenport Archives

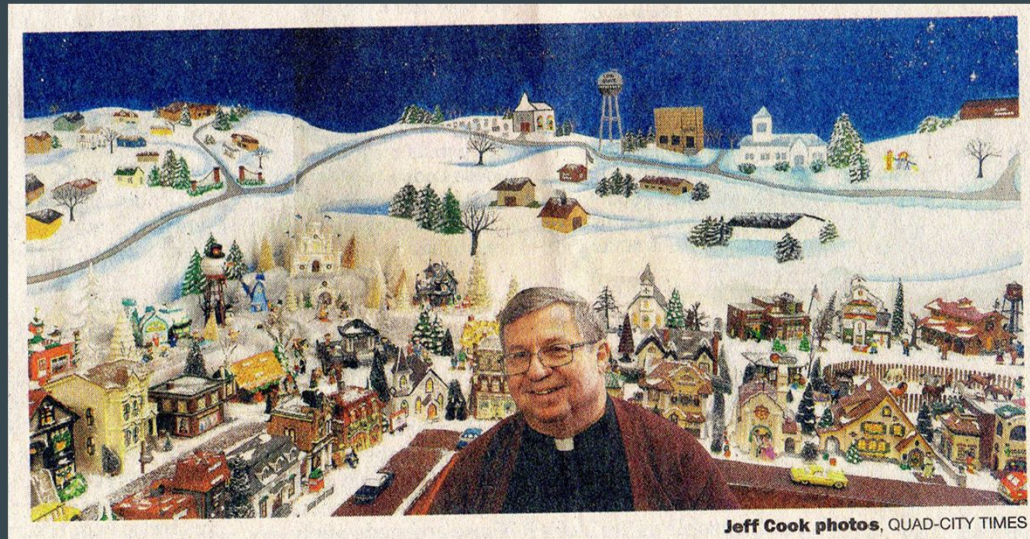
- Managed our parish for two years keeping it on track for growth
- Ministered to the parishioners of St. Ann's in his quiet and kind ways
- Helped establish St. Ann's Chapter of the Knights of Columbus in 2009

Msgr. Drake Shafer  
2009 - present



- Worked in various roles at St. Ambrose for 23 years before coming to St. Ann's
- Made many improvements and additions including a columbarium, handicapped accessible altar area, new reconciliation room, and an enlarged and renewed Blessed Sacrament Chapel





- Currently overseeing installation of solar panels
- Leads one of the fastest growing parishes in the diocese
- Received the McMullen Award from St. Ambrose University in 2017

Columbarium  
added to our  
cemetery in  
2013



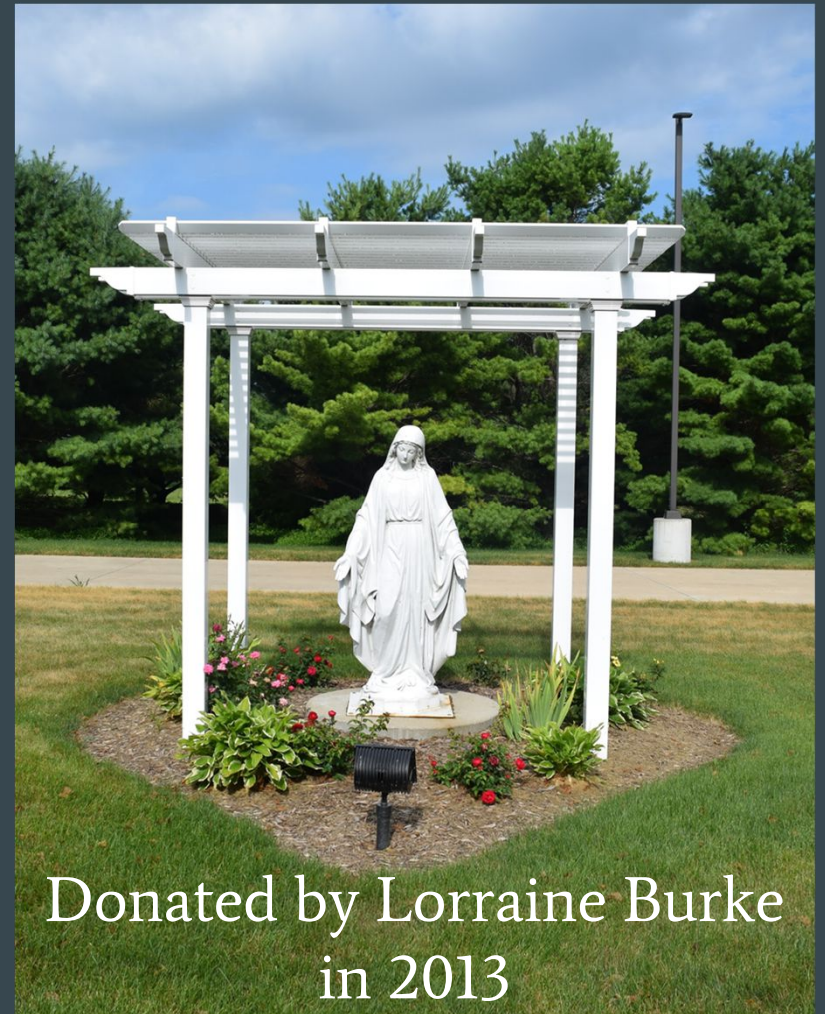
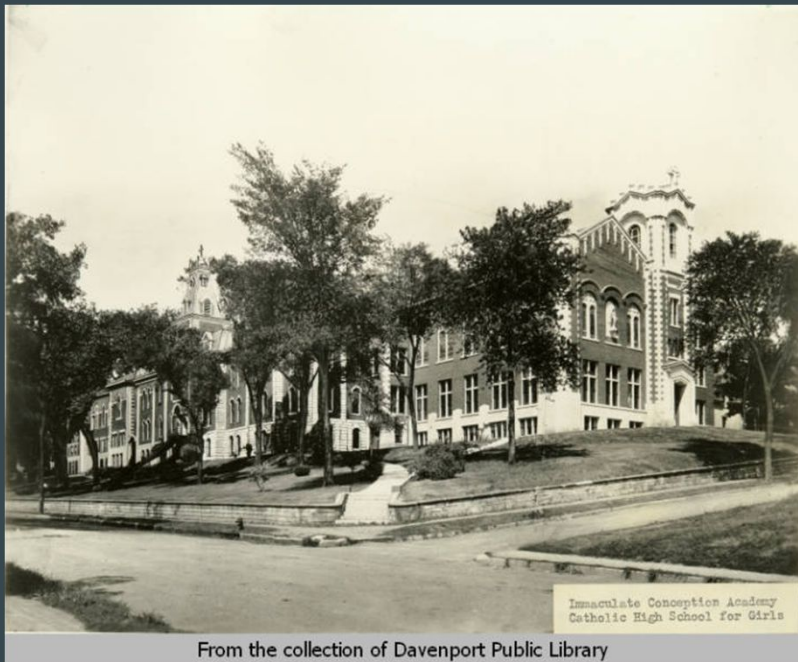


# Blessed Sacrament Chapel Updated





Blessed Virgin Mary statue on  
west side of church came from  
the Immaculate Conception  
Academy in Davenport



## Other noteworthy statues at St. Ann's



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel  
Also donated by Lorraine  
Burke from Immaculate  
Conception Academy



Michelangelo's Pietà



St. Joseph the Worker





**Shrine of the Holy Cross in the Fields**

Blessed and  
dedicated on  
September 18, 2016

Donated by the  
Joan and Ray  
Boeding Family







Connecting  
our past to the  
present and  
the future...

## John T. Noel Home Yesterday



JOHN T. NOEL FARM HOME  
(about 1905 - 1910)

Noel, Jr.

Rosalia Noel Doyle	Mary Maguire Noel	Rosalie &
Elmer & Art Doyle	John Thomas Noel	Francis Doyle

Farm now owned by Jerome (Jerry) Noel  
5555 225 St. Long Grove

From  
Elsbeth Noel



# The Noel Farm Today

Home of Jerry  
and Connie  
Noel

Jerry is the  
grandson of  
John and Mary  
Noel



# First Communion Class Yesterday

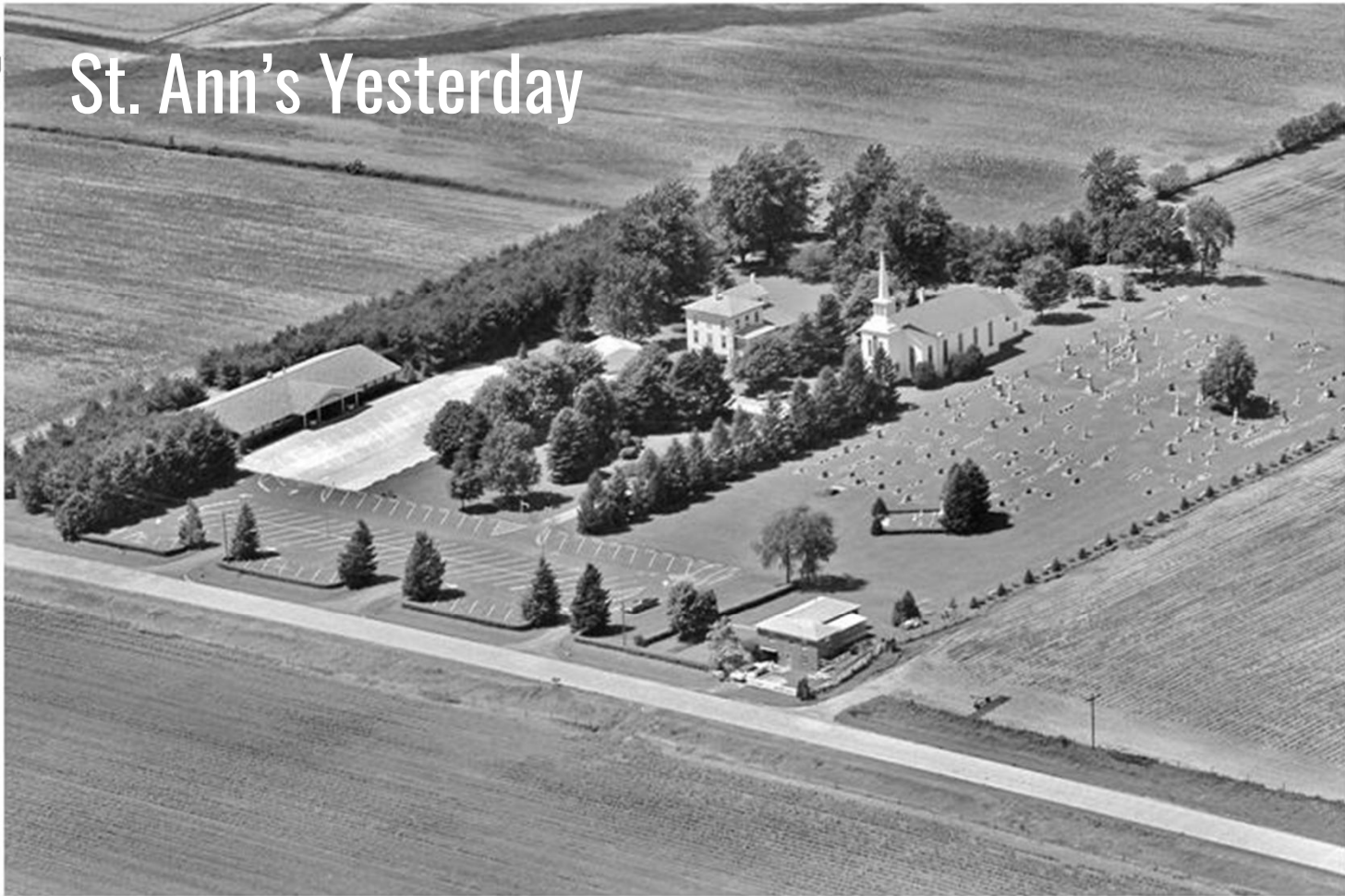


# First Communion Class Today





# St. Ann's Yesterday





# St. Ann's Today



**The fields are still listening...**

# Sources

"400 In Line for Parade of Ku Klux Klan; March of the White Robes Goes on Without Incident." *Quad-City Times*, 12 Sept. 1926.

Adney, John R. "Who Was Father Mazzuchelli?." *The Annals of Iowa* 39 (1969), 552-560. Available at:  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.7911>

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# Speaker Notes

Page 2: Many missionaries were not so interested in “civilizing” the Indians, they wanted to preserve their culture. The missionaries were also against giving liquor to the Indians as payment for furs and other types of exploitation. The selling of liquor to Indians became a big problem, because once they got a taste of it, the Indians would only trade with fur traders who gave them liquor. It was hard for the missionaries to have an impact on the Indian’s lives when liquor was available. (*Seasons of Growth History of the Diocese of Davenport 1881-1981, p. 12*)

Page 8: The Treaty of 1804 supposedly gave the land east of the Mississippi River (including present state of Illinois) to the United States, but the Indians didn’t consider it official because the Indians that signed it were not considered official representatives qualified to sign a treaty that gave their land away. They were basically tricked into signing something they didn’t completely understand. So there was confusion as to whether white settlers could live there or not. This misunderstanding led to the Blackhawk War.

“By 1829, more than a hundred settlers had encroached on Indian land, and Saukenuk itself was being pressed.” Then, in 1831, “Black Hawk and his band returned from the winter hunt to find squatters living in Saukenuk itself, even occupying his own lodge.” This led to the Black Hawk War. Chief Black Hawk was defeated and became a prisoner in St. Louis. Chief Keokuk signed the treaty for the Sauk and Fox. (*The Quad Cities: An American Mosaic, p. 6-7*)

In 1838 the Brownlie Brothers paid \$160 for 160 acres of wooded land. [http://iagenweb.org/scott/history/longgrove\\_history.htm](http://iagenweb.org/scott/history/longgrove_history.htm)

Current land values in Scott County are around \$10,000/acre <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/wholefarm/html/c2-70.html>

Iowa was part of Michigan Territory, then in 1836 - Wisconsin Territory, before becoming Iowa Territory in 1838.

<http://iagenweb.org/history/moi/MOIChp2.htm>

Page 9: Right or wrong, about a year after the Blackhawk Purchase was signed, the land was opened to settlers. Quote on right is during the Brownlie Brothers search for wooded land to buy. They walked along Mississippi River from Davenport to the Wapsipinicon River, then west along the Wapsi. Were told there might be land available to the south. Try to imagine what they saw and how they must have felt. Charles Elder and Leonard Cooper were part of the charter group to build a catholic church. Brownlie Brothers found some land to buy in what is now Long Grove. They helped establish the Christian Church and cemetery right in town.

Page 10: Something real from today to connect to the past. Tombstone must have been updated at some point.

Page 11: Could he have possibly stopped at the cabin of Leonard Cooper or Charles Elder to say mass?

Other interesting facts about Fr. Mazzuchelli:

- The first book published in what became the state of Wisconsin, was written by him - *The Chippewa Almanac*. It was written in the Winnebago language and published in 1834
- The Irish called him "Father Kelly". Protestants and Catholics loved him for his selfless generosity, especially tending to the sick
- "When Father Mazzuchelli established a church, he served as architect, contractor, superintendent, fund raiser and often as laborer.
- Founded the community of Dominican sisters at Sinsinawa, WI and founded schools in that area, such as a college for men and an academy for women
- He wrote to Andrew Jackson to protest the Indian Removal policy
- Named the streets of Shullsburg, WI
- Last parish served was St. Patrick's in Benton, WI
- Died in 1864, at age of 57, when he caught pneumonia after visiting a sick parish member in the bitter cold
- In 1993, he was declared "venerable" by the Pope, which is the first step to becoming a saint.

<https://ir.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/vol39/iss7/9/>

Page 13: Other facts about Bishop Loras:

- Born in France in 1792
- Was a seminary classmate of St. John Vianney
- Came to America in 1829 and worked in Mobile, Alabama until being appointed bishop for Dubuque in 1837
- After being appointed bishop, he went to France to recruit priests and get funds to buy property to build churches and schools.
- "When he arrived at Dubuque with two priests and four seminarists from France, he found one lone sentinel of the Faith in his vast province – the Dominican, Samuel Charles Mazzuchelli. A little stone cathedral, erected by the miners under the direction of the Italian missionary, was still in an unfinished state. There was no house for the new bishop."
- "I find myself too rich indeed," he wrote ironically to Bishop Rosati in a moment of apparent discouragement a short time after his labors had begun, "for all Iowa hasn't another congregation besides Dubuque and Davenport, and the latter has only four catholic families. Mr. Mazzuchelli is leaving for Burlington, where, I am told, there are none at all. Blessed be God. – This Diocese will have to be closed in the course of time. In the meantime we are going to strive not to die of starvation. This winter flour costs already \$10, and other things in proportion. It isn't a small affair to keep up a house like ours. God will provide."

**Quote from** <http://iagenweb.org/boards/dubuque/biographies/index.cgi?read=211677>

- European missionary societies gave him money that he used to buy public land for \$1.25 an acre that could provide income and future sites of churches, schools and other religious establishments. (*Archdiocese of Dubuque 1837-2012; Jesus Alive Through 175 Years*)
- He expected his priests to be very frugal, as he was
- 3,100 Catholics in the diocese when it consisted of Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas
- 54,000 Catholics when the diocese was just the state of Iowa, at the time of his death in 1858



Page 14: "Antoine LeClaire served as interpreter during the treaty negotiations between the U.S. Government and the Native Americans. In appreciation the Native Americans gave him two parcels of land, one of which became the City of Davenport, Iowa. In 1837 LeClaire donated one block, called Church Square, to Father Samuel Mazzuchelli..."

<http://www.stanthonysdavenportiowa.org/parish-history.html>

Page 15: "Father Pelamourgues was at first the only priest in a large territory, and for many years attended other places as out-missions, among which may be named Muscatine, Iowa City, Burlington, Columbus Junction, DeWitt and Lyons. Traveling was in those days very trying. The hard work and the dangers of the way were frequently forgotten in the joy and consolation which the priest was able to bring to the distant members of his scattered flock. Results would force a smile even in disappointment."

(Annals of Iowa) <https://ir.uiowa.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4554&context=annals-of-iowa>

Page 17: This baptism record book is in the Special Collections room at Davenport Public Library. Note the names of parents are charter members of St. Ann's, and Father Pelamourgue's signature.

Page 19: Tombstone of a charter member and the wife of another charter member. Note that they were born in Ireland.

Page 25: Remember how the Brownlie Brothers found Leonard Cooper, his wife and 10 children in a log cabin when they first came to this area? This is one of those 10 children.

"John T. Cooper was born in Cambria Co., Pa., March 26, 1837. His parents were Leonard and Julia A. Cooper, nee Elder, the former, a native of Maryland, the latter of Pennsylvania. They came to this county in 1838 and located in Long Grove. There was a furrow broken from Davenport to that place, and they moved in wagons drawn by horses. Mrs. Cooper walked and carried James, then a child, nearly all the way. Their first house was built of rails and chinked with leaves and covered with bark. Leonard Cooper died Oct. 29, 1860; his wife resides with the subject of this sketch. John T. enlisted in the Civil War in Co. C, 20th Iowa Inf. Vol. Participated in the battles of Prairie Grove, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Fort Morgan, Fort Blakely and others. He was married June 4, 1867, to Anna Glynn, by whom he has had six children; five survive, viz: Charles T., Francis A., William A., Mary, Malissa and Anna I. Mr. Cooper owns 200 acres of excellent farming land on section 5. Is an enterprising farmer and a prominent citizen of Scott County." (From History of Scott County, Iowa, Sheridan Township, Biographical)

Page 26: Hard times required a strong faith.

"Raphael Cooper was born in Cambria Co., Pa., Nov. 1, 1833. He came to Scott County in the spring of 1839, and followed farming and brick-making for several years. For the past 20 years he has engaged exclusively in farming. He owns 168 acres of well-improved land, and makes a specialty of raising fine stock. His marriage with Celina M. De La Croix occurred July 7, 1860. She is of French parentage and birth. They have two children - Julia C., born Aug. 14, 1868, and Theresa E., born Jan. 14, 1872. In 1878 Mr. and Mrs. Cooper went to Europe and visited England, Ireland, Wales, and made quite a long stay in Paris, visiting relatives and friends. They returned to America in May, 1879. Mr. Cooper has held various local offices of trust in the township, among them school director and road supervisor. He is a member of the Catholic church." (From History of Scott County, Iowa, Winfield Township, Biographical)

Page 29: Point out the vestry in the very back of the church. That was the original church! It was taken off at some point because at Pioneer Village, that part is gone.

Page 30: There are more descendants of our charter members that are still members of the parish today. This is just one notable family that we found pictures of to share.

Page 37: Irish parishioners preferred Irish priests and German parishioners preferred German priests, but it was not always easy to work out.

The story of St. Joseph's (German) and St. Mary's (Irish) in Davenport -

St. Anthony's was getting too crowded so Father Pelamourgues built a new church for the Germans living on the west side of Davenport called St. Kunegunde, (later named St. Joseph's), in May 1856, with Father Michael Flammang as pastor. Then in October of 1856 he built St. Marguerite (later named Sacred Heart), on the east side, on land donated by Antoine and Marguerite LeClaire with Father Andrew Trevis as pastor. "Father Pelamourgues opposed the idea of a church for Germans only. When Father Flammang refused to extend membership to all, Pelamourgues threatened to build another church under his nose, two blocks from St. Kunegunde, a promise he carried out in 1867 when St. Mary's was built." From: *Seasons of Growth: History of the Diocese of Davenport 1881-1981*

Page 40: The Ku Klux Klan originally started after the Civil War but lasted only a few years. During WW I it began to reorganize after the showing of the movie *Birth of a Nation*, which showed the first Ku Klux Klan organizing to defend white people against blacks. The movie showed in Des Moines in 1916. It started in the South but gained strength in the Midwest too. In Iowa, Davenport, Sioux City, Waterloo, Ottumwa and Des Moines had many followers along with some smaller towns. Their peak year was 1924 when they were able to influence elections, including school board members. The Ku Klux Klan died down in Iowa by 1930.

"The Klan appealed to people who believed their beliefs were superior to the beliefs of immigrants, Catholics, Jews or "colored people".

<http://www.iptv.org/iowapathways/mypath/story-ku-klux-klan-america-and-iowa>

I found newspaper articles from September 1926 *Quad City Times* reporting on a Ku Klux Klan parade that took place in Davenport, starting at the meeting ground on Rockingham Road, following 2nd St. to Harrison, then back to Rockingham. It says about 400 Klansmen, Klans women and children took part in the parade.

"400 In Line for Parade of Ku Klux Klan; March of the White Robes Goes on Without Incident." *Quad-City Times*, 12 Sept. 1926.

Page 54: Georgetown University professor Rev. John W. O'Malley about the importance of Vatican II -

"O'Malley says a theme of the documents was reconciliation. In keeping, they allowed for Catholics to pray with other Christian denominations, encouraged friendship with other non-Christian faiths, and opened the door for languages besides Latin to be used during Mass. Other new positions concerned education, the media and divine revelation."

<https://www.npr.org/2012/10/10/162573716/why-is-vatican-ii-so-important>

Some other changes from Vatican II -

- The priest faces the people
- People can participate in the mass more by being lectors, giving communion, etc.
- Girls can be servers



Page 77: LaVern's grandfather was a charter member of the first St. Ann's Church

Page 83: It was begun by the [Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#) (BVM) in 1859 and it remained in operation until it merged with [St. Ambrose Academy](#) in 1958 to form [Assumption High School](#). The academy building remains in use as an academic building on the campus of [Palmer College of Chiropractic](#).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immaculate\\_Conception\\_Academy\\_\(Davenport,\\_Iowa\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immaculate_Conception_Academy_(Davenport,_Iowa))

Tom Burke, Lorraine's husband, worked/volunteered at the hospital where the nuns worked (Mercy?) When the school closed the nuns were worried about what would happen to the statue, so Tom said he would take it and keep it safe in his garage. Many years later, Lorraine donated it to St. Ann's and Msgr. had it refinished/restored. Statue dates back to the 1880's. (Information from Lois Nagle and Msgr.)